

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 REYKJA 00022 041958Z

47

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 EURE-00 SAJ-01 TRSE-00 NEA-10

ACDA-19 OMB-01 EB-11 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 DRC-01 /145 W

----- 020390

P R 041908Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4224

INFO USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE REYKJAVIK 0022

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR MARR IC NATO

SUBJECT: IDF RETENTION ISSUE: MAGNUS KJARTANSSON COMMENTS TO  
WASHINGTON POST DAN MORGAN

1. ACCORDING TO DAN MORGAN, WASHINGTON POST CORRESPONDENT NOW  
VISITING, MINISTER OF INDUSTRIES MAGNUS KJARTANSSON MADE THESE  
POINTS DURING 20 MINUTE INTERVIEW ON DEFENSE JAN 4:

A. THE PEOPLES ALLIANCE WOULD DEFINITELY LEAVE THE GOVT IF THE  
ALTHING SHOULD VOTE AGAINST A BILL TO TERMINATE THE DEFENSE  
AGREEMENT. (COMMENT: NOT CLEAR WHETHER THIS ALSO WOULD APPLY TO  
A VOTE AGAINST A GOVT BILL TO AUTHORIZE THE GOVT TO TERMINATE  
AGREEMENT BY ITSELF.)

B. WHAT THE PEOPLES ALLIANCE DEMANDS IS "A SPECIFIC DATE" FOR THE  
REMOVAL OF THE DEFENSE FORCE. THIS DATE NEED NOT BE DURING THE  
PRESENT ELECTORAL TERM. BUT THE DATE MUST BE SPECIFIC AND IT  
WOULD BE THE TASK OF THE SUBSEQUENT GOVT TO IMPLEMENT THIS.  
(COMMENT: WHILE PEOPLES ALLIANCE POLICY IS CLEARLY AGAINST THE  
BASE IN ANY FORM, MINISTER MAY BE BLURRING OVER HERE A DISTINCTION  
OTHERS MIGHT MAKE BETWEEN "MILITARY FORCES" AND A "SURVEILLANCE  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 REYKJA 00022 041958Z

STATION".)

C. THE NEXT STEP AFTER THE REMOVAL OF THE BASE, IN PEOPLES ALLIANCE FOREIGN POLICY, IS WITHDRAWAL FROM NATO. KJARTANSSON ARGUED THAT ICELAND IS IN GREATER DANGER WITH THE BASE THAN WITHOUT IT IN CASE OF WAR. TO REMAIN IN AN ALLIANCE WHEN ICELAND CLEARLY WAS OF NO DANGER TO ANYONE WOULD NOT ONLY BE "RIDICULOUS" BUT WOULD BE INVITING UNWARRANTED ATTACK. (COMMENT: THIS CONTRASTS SHARPLY WITH A THORARINN THORARINSSON EDITORIAL IN TIMINN JAN 4 ARGUING THAT ICELAND DEFENSE IS SECURED WHETHER OR NOT A BASE REMAINS SINCE, IN THE EVENT OF AN ATTACK UPON MEMBER ICELAND, ALL NATO NATIONS WOULD BE BOUND TO RESPOND.)

2. MORGAN ALSO INTERVIEWED INDEPENDENCE PARTY CHAIRMAN GEIR HALLGRIMSSON. HALLGRIMSSON'S PRINCIPAL EXPRESSED CONCERN WAS THAT, FACED WITH EXTREMELY DIVISIVE AND DIFFICULT ECONOMIC QUESTIONS, GOVT MIGHT CHOOSE COURSE OF DIVERTING ATTENTION AND ENERGY TO REMOVING THE IDF.

3. MORGAN DOES NOT PLAN WRITE ARTICLES UNTIL RETURN TO WASHINGTON JAN 6. IRVING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 JAN 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974REYKJA00022  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** REYKJAVIK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740162/aaaacgcp.tel  
**Line Count:** 81  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 MAY 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <20 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <23 MAY 2002 by morefirh>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** IDF RETENTION ISSUE: MAGNUS KJARTANSSON COMMENTS TO WASHINGTON POST DAN MORGAN  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MARR, IC, NATO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005